



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

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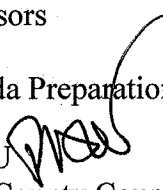
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TO: PATRICK OGAWA
Acting Executive Officer
Board of Supervisors

Attention: Agenda Preparation

FROM: PATRICK A. WU 
Senior Assistant County Counsel
Executive Office

RE: **Item for the Board of Supervisors' Agenda**
County Claims Board Recommendation
Dulce Castillo v. County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 498 418

Attached is the Agenda entry for the Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation regarding the above-referenced matter. Also attached is the Case Summary to be made available to the public.

It is requested that this recommendation and the Case Summary be placed on the Board of Supervisors' agenda.

PAW:cs

Attachments

Board Agenda

MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS

Los Angeles County Claims Board's recommendation: Authorize settlement of the matter entitled Dulce Castillo v. County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC 498 418, in the amount of \$1,500,000, plus assumption of the Medi-Cal lien in the estimated amount of \$94,280, and instruct the Auditor-Controller to draw a warrant to implement this settlement from the Department of Health Services' budget.

This medical malpractice lawsuit concerns allegations that LAC+USC Medical Center staff were negligent in performing a medical procedure, which caused further injuries and the need for future medical treatment.

CASE SUMMARY

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION

CASE NAME	Dulce Castillo v. County of Los Angeles
CASE NUMBER	BC 498418
COURT	Los Angeles Superior Court - Central District
DATE FILED	January 7, 2013
COUNTY DEPARTMENT	Department of Health Services
PROPOSED SETTLEMENT AMOUNT	\$1,500,000, plus assumption of the Medi-Cal lien in the estimated amount of \$94,280
ATTORNEY FOR PLAINTIFF	Peter McNulty, Esq. McNulty Law Firm
COUNTY COUNSEL ATTORNEY	Narbeh Bagdasarian Senior Deputy County Counsel
NATURE OF CASE	<p>On October 31, 2011, Dulce Castillo, underwent a laparoscopic procedure at LAC+USC Medical Center to remove her gallstones.</p> <p>The procedure became complicated, and Ms. Castillo suffered bleeding. Trauma surgeons were summoned and repaired the bleeding site.</p> <p>As a result of the complications, Ms. Castillo will need additional future treatment.</p> <p>Dulce Castillo filed a medical malpractice action against the County of Los Angeles contending that the staff at LAC+USC Medical Center were negligent in performing the laparoscopic procedure thereby causing her to suffer further injuries.</p>
PAID ATTORNEY FEES, TO DATE	\$243,229
PAID COSTS, TO DATE	\$87,234